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ANNUAL AUDITED REPORT FORM X-17A-5 PART III

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Information Required of Brokers and Dealers Pursuant to Section 47 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 17a-5 Thereinder

REPORT FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING	January 1, 2014	AND ENDING I	ND ENDING December 31, 2014	
	MM/DD/YY	-	MM/DD/YY	
Α.	REGISTRANT IDENTI	FICATION		
NAME OF BROKER-DEALER:	Tourmaline Partners, LLC		OFFICIAL USE ONLY FIRM ID. NO.	
ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUS	,	0.)		
680 Washington Boulevard, 10th F	(No. and Street)			
Stamford	Connecticut		06901	
(City)	(State)		(Zip Code)	
NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PH	ERSON TO CONTACT IN REG	ARD TO THIS REPORT		
Daniel Groff			(203) 302-7300	
			(Area Code Telephone No.)	
В.	ACCOUNTANT IDENT	IFICATION		
INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT V	whose opinion is contained in this	Report*		
KPMG, LLP				
	(Name if individual, state last, first,	middle name )		
4 Becker Farm Road	Roseland	New Jersey	07068	
(Address)	(City)	(State)	(Zip Code)	
CHECK ONE:  Certified Public Accountant  Public Accountant  Accountant not resident in Unit	ed States or any of its possessions	3		
	FOR OFFICIAL USE O	NLY		

SEC 1410 (06-02)

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<sup>\*</sup>Claims for exemption from the requirement that the annual report be covered by the opinion of an independent public accountant must be supported by a statement of facts and circumstances relied on as the basis for the exemption. See section 240.17a-5(e)(2).

# **OATH OR AFFIRMATION**

I,	Daniel Groff	, swear (or affirm) that, to the
best		ompanying financial statement and supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of
	Tourmaline Partners, LLC	
	December 31	,20 14, are true and correct. I further swear (or affirm) that neither the company
		icer or director has any proprietary interest in any account classified solely as that of
a cu	stomer, except as follows:	
		_
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3.	9 30 8 33	Maria M. M. M. M.
में :		Signature
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ر در ا	3	Chief Executive Officer Title
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1	SMITTEL YEUT	
77	Josephan Goldstein	<del></del>
[]	Notary Public-Connecticu	t  }
	March 31, 2018	<b> </b>
Thi	is report contains (check all applica	bite boxes):
X	(a) Facing page.	
X	(b) Statement of Financial Condition	on.
靣	(c) Statement of Income (Loss).	
	(d) Statement of Changes in Financia	cial Condition.
П	(e) Statement of Changes in Stockl	holders' Equity or Partners' or Sole Proprietor's Capital.
同	(f) Statement of Changes in Liabili	ities Subordinated to Claims of Creditors.
一	(g) Computation of Net Capital.	
一		n of Reserve Requirements Pursuant to Rule 15c3-3.
H	· ' ·	ssession or control Requirements Under Rule 15c3-3.
H	``f	propriate explanation, of the Computation of Net Capital Under Rule 15c3-1 and the
Li	,	n of the Reserve Requirements Under Exhibit A of Rule 15c3-3.
_	·	-
Ш		audited and unaudited Statements of Financial Condition with respect to methods of con-
X	solidation.  (i) An Oath or Affirmation.	
屵	(m) A copy of the SIPC Supplement	ntal Report.
Ħ		-
		al inadequacies found to exist or found to have existed since the date of the previous audit.

<sup>\*\*</sup>For conditions of confidential treatment of certain portions of this filing, see section 240.17a-5(e)(3).

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION
AND
REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM
DECEMBER 31, 2014

# CONTENTS

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Consolidated Financial Statement	
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KPMG LLP 4 Becker Farm Road Roseland, NJ 07068

## Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Members Tourmaline Partners, LLC:

We have audited the accompanying consolidated statement of financial condition of Tourmaline Partners, LLC and Subsidiaries (the "Company") as of December 31, 2014 (the "financial statement"). The financial statement is the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statement is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall consolidated financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2014, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

KPMG LIP

February 27, 2015

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION

December 31, 2014	
ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,117,694
Receivables from clearing brokers, including clearing deposits of approximately \$2,000,000	3,431,182
Commissions receivable	215,157
Property and equipment, net	429,863
Other assets	282,123_
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 6,476,019
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 3,705,037
Equity  Members' equity  Non-controlling interest	2,892,112 -
Accumulated other comprehensive income	(121,130)
Total equity	2,770,982
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND MEMBERS' EQUITY	\$ 6,476,019

#### NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### 1. Nature of business

Tourmaline Partners, LLC ("Tourmaline Partners") is a limited liability company formed under the laws of the state of Connecticut on June 17, 2010. Tourmaline Partners is registered as a broker-dealer with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") and a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority. Tourmaline Partners' operations are also conducted through its wholly-owned subsidiaries, Tourmaline (UK) Limited ("Tourmaline Associates") and their wholly owned subsidiary, Tourmaline Europe, LLP ("Tourmaline Europe"). Tourmaline Europe is authorized and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (the "FCA").

Tourmaline Partners, Tourmaline UK, Tourmaline Associates and Tourmaline Europe (collectively, the "Company") execute trades in listed equities and options with or on behalf of, and earn commission from managers of private investment funds.

## 2. Summary of significant accounting policies

Principles of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Tourmaline Partners, Tourmaline UK, Tourmaline Associates, and Tourmaline Europe. All significant intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated in consolidation.

Basis of Presentation

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP").

Cash and Cash Equivalents

For purposes of the consolidated statement of cash flows, the Company considers all highly liquid investments with remaining maturities of three months or less at acquisition to be cash equivalents.

Receivables from Clearing Brokers and Commissions Receivable

The amounts receivable from broker and commissions receivable arise in the ordinary course of business and are pursuant to a clearing agreement with a clearing firm.

Revenue and Expense Recognition from Securities Transactions

Securities transactions and the related commission revenues and expenses are recorded on the trade-date basis and unrealized gains and losses are reflected in revenues.

#### NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

## Deferred Rent Expense

The difference between the rent expense and rent paid is recorded as deferred rent in the consolidated statement of financial condition. Tenant incentives used to fund leasehold improvements are recorded in deferred rent and amortized as reductions of rent expense over the term of the lease.

## Property and Equipment

Property and equipment is stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and amortization. The Company provides for depreciation and amortization as follows:

Asset	Estimated Useful Life	Principal Method	
Furniture and fixtures	3-7 years	Straight-line	
Computer hardware	3-5 years	Straight-line	
Computer software	3-5 years	Straight-line	
Leasehold improvements	Shorter of useful life or lease term	Straight-line	

#### Impairment of Long-Lived Assets

In accordance with GAAP, long-lived assets are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be fully recoverable. If an impairment indicator is present, the Company evaluates recoverability by a comparison of the carrying amount of the assets to future undiscounted net cash flows expected to be generated by the assets. If the assets are impaired, the impairment recognized is measured by the amount by which the carrying amount exceeds the estimated fair value of the assets. There was no impairment of long-lived assets recorded during the year ended December 31, 2014.

## Client Commission Arrangements

Institutional customers are permitted to allocate a portion of their gross commissions to pay for research products and other services provided by third parties. The amounts allocated for those purposes are commonly referred to as client commission arrangements. The cost of independent research and directed brokerage arrangements is accounted for on an accrual basis.

#### NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

# Foreign Currency Translation

Foreign currency transactions and the financial statements of Tourmaline Partners' foreign subsidiaries are translated into U.S. dollars at prevailing or current rates respectively, except for revenues and expenses which are translated at average currency rates during the reporting period. Exchange gains and losses resulting from foreign currency transactions are recognized currently. Gains and losses resulting from translation of financial statements are excluded from the consolidated statement of operations and are reported as a separate component of equity. The annual currency translation adjustment decreased equity by approximately \$83,000 at December 31, 2014.

## Comprehensive Income (Loss)

The Company reports and displays comprehensive income (loss) and its components in members' equity. The components of other comprehensive income (loss), such as changes in foreign currency translation adjustments are added to net income to arrive at comprehensive income (loss). Other comprehensive income (loss) items have no impact on net income as presented in the consolidated statement of operations and comprehensive income.

### Income Taxes

The Company is a limited liability company, and treated as a partnership for income tax reporting purposes. The Internal Revenue Code ("IRC") provides that any income or loss is passed through to the members for federal and state income tax purposes. Accordingly, the Company has not provided for federal or state income taxes.

At December 31, 2014, management has determined that the Company had no uncertain tax positions that would require financial statement recognition. This determination will always be subject to ongoing reevaluation as facts and circumstances may require. The Company remains subject to U.S. federal and state income tax audits for all periods subsequent to 2011.

Tourmaline UK is subject to corporate income taxes at a 23.0% tax rate for the period January 1, 2014 through March 31, 2014 and 21.0% for the period April 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. Tourmaline Associates is subject to corporate income taxes at a 20.0% tax rate for the period January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014.

#### Non-Controlling Interest

The consolidated subsidiaries that are less then wholly owned are referred to as non-controlling interests. The portion of net income (loss) attributable to non-controlling interests for such subsidiaries is presented as net income applicable to non-controlling interests on the consolidated statement of operations, and the portion of equity of such subsidiaries is presented as non-controlling interests on the consolidated statement of financial condition and consolidated statement of changes in equity.

#### Use of Estimates

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. In particular, estimates have been made in reference to the other investment valuations. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 3. Property and equipment

Property and equipment consist of the following at December 31, 2014:

Furniture and fixtures	\$ 153,407
Computer hardware	478,213
Computer software	328,637
Leasehold improvements	168,363
	1,128,620
Less accumulated depreciation	698,757
	\$ 429,863

Depreciation expense for the year ended December 31, 2014 was approximately \$194,000.

## 4. Commitments

Tourmaline Partners is obligated under operating lease agreements expiring through May 2018. Rent expense for the year ended December 31, 2014 was approximately \$272,000. Included in other assets at December 31, 2014 are security deposits related to these lease agreements in the approximate amount of \$103,000.

Tourmaline Europe is obligated under an operating lease for its London office space that expires in July 2019. Rent expense for the year ended December 31, 2014 was approximately \$181,000. Included in other assets at December 31, 2014 is a security deposit related to this lease agreement in the approximate amount of \$27,000.

Aggregate future lease payments of office space under this lease agreement for the five years subsequent to December 31, 2014 are as follows:

2015	\$ 354,000
2016	295,000
2017	300,000
2018	164,000
2019	 38,000
	\$ 1,151,000

For the year ended December 31, 2014, rent expense for the Company was approximately \$453,000.

#### NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### 5. Net capital requirement

Tourmaline Partners is subject to the SEC Uniform Net Capital Rule 15c3-1. This Rule requires the maintenance of minimum net capital and that the ratio of aggregate indebtedness to net capital, both as defined, shall not exceed 15 to 1 and that equity capital may not be withdrawn if the resulting net capital ratio would exceed 10 to 1. At December 31, 2014, Tourmaline Partners' net capital was approximately \$981,000 which was approximately \$731,000 in excess of its minimum requirement of \$250,000.

Tourmaline Europe is required under FCA Rules to maintain capital equivalent to the higher of one quarter of its estimated projected annual fixed overhead expenditure and the base capital resource requirement for a BIPRU50k firm of \$60,500. At December 31, 2014, Tourmaline Europe was in compliance with FCA capital requirements.

#### 6. Off-balance sheet risk and concentration of credit risk

The Company is exposed to off-balance sheet risk of loss on unsettled transactions in the event that other counterparties are unable to fulfill their contractual obligations.

The clearing operation for securities transactions are provided by one broker. This broker is a member of major securities exchange. At December 31, 2014, all of the securities owned and the amounts due from broker reflected in the consolidated statement of financial condition are positions held by, and amount due from, such broker. Amounts due from broker may be restricted to the extent that they serve as deposits for securities sold, not yet purchased. The Company is subject to credit risk should this broker be unable to fulfill their obligations to return the Company's securities or repay amounts owed. Substantially all of the Company's receivables from broker relate to cash balances on deposit and approximately \$2,000,000 required by the clearing broker to be maintained on deposit.

From time to time, the Company will maintain cash balances in a financial institution which at times may exceed federally insured limits. The Company is subject to credit risk to the extent any financial institution with which it conducts business is unable to fulfill contractual obligations on its behalf. Management monitors the financial condition of such financial institutions and does not anticipate any losses from these counterparties.

#### 7. Employee benefit plan

The Company maintains a retirement plan (the "Plan"), pursuant to Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code, for eligible participants to make voluntary contributions of a portion of their annual compensation, on a deferred basis, subject to limitations provided by the Internal Revenue Code. The Company may make a matching contribution at the discretion of the Board of Directors. At December 31, 2014, the Company incurred expenses related to the Plan in the amount of approximately \$127,000.

## 8. Exemption from Rule 15c3-3

The Company is exempt from the Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c3-3 pursuant to provision (k)(2)(ii) with respect to clearing all transactions on a fully disclosed basis through its clearing firm. Further, the Company operates pursuant to the exemptive provision of Rule 15c3-3 with respect to its soft dollar business and as such, segregates funds accordingly in a "Special Reserve Bank Account for the Exclusive Benefit of Customers." The funds segregated in this account are not used in the normal business operations of the Company.

# NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 9. Major customer

During the year ended December 31, 2014, the Company had one major customer that aggregated approximately 11% of total revenues.

#### 10. Soft dollar transactions

During 2014, the Company entered into soft dollar arrangements with certain clients within the provisions of Rule 28(e). Section 28 (e) of the Exchange Act establishes a safe harbor for money managers, which allows them to purchase research and brokerage services for clients using soft dollars. Other clients, specifically hedge funds, may still participate in the soft dollar program pursuant to the guidelines established in their fund documents. Under the soft dollar program, the Company uses commissions to pay brokerage and research related expenses on behalf of clients. At December 31, 2014, the Company has an outstanding liability of approximately \$1,330,000 included in accounts payable and accrued expenses on the consolidated statement of financial condition.

## 11. Subsequent event

These consolidated financial statements were approved by management and available for issuance on February 27, 2015. Subsequent events have been evaluated through this date.

Subsequent to December 31, 2014, Members affected withdrawals of approximately \$250,000.